**CALC** 100940-B Document 3 Filed 04/27/22 Page 1 of 9 PageID 5

CASE NO.

CONTRACTOR CONTRACTOR TX

2022 APR 27 PM 2: 05

DS137908

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS **DALLAS DIVISION** 

-					
GEOFFREY WATTIKER Plaintiff, Pro Se	} 8-22CV0940-B				
ELSENBARY ENTERPRISES, INC., D/B/A ELSENBARY HAULERS, TAGHRID TRANSPORTATION, INC. TAGHRID RAGAB, MEDO HASSAN, MARKEL INSURANCE COMPANY, Defendants.	COMPLAINT AND DEMAND FOR A JURY  ) ) ) )				

Plaintiff, GEOFFREY WATTIKER (hereinafter, "Plaintiff" or "Wattiker"), as and for his complaint against Defendants, alleges as follows:

### **JURISDICTION OF THE COURT**

{1} Plaintiff invokes the jurisdiction of this Court under Title 28, Section 1331 of the United States Code in respect of the first count in this complaint, and under Title 28, Section 1332(a)(1) of the United States Code, as well as pendant and supplemental jurisdiction as to the remaining counts. The amount of damages exceeds \$10,000.00

#### **VENUE**

{2} Venue is proper for this action under 28 USC 1391(b)(2) and (3) because the damaged cargo described in this Complaint was delivered to Plaintiff in this district by Defendants, Elsenbary Enterprises Inc. D/B/A Elsenbary Haulers, (hereafter, "Elsenbary"), and Taghrid Ragab, (hereafter "Ragab"), and Medo Hassan, (hereafter, "Hassan"). Upon information and belief, all of the Defendants do business within this District.

#### THE PARTIES

- {3} Geoffrey Wattiker, ("Plaintiff"), a person of full age and majority, and is a citizen and resident of Dallas, Texas, whose address is 5208 Longview Street, Dallas, TX 75206.
- {4} Elsenbary is a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the State of North Carolina with it principal address at 1606 Bay Meadows Ave. N.W. Concord, North Carolina. Its registered agent for the service of process is Defendant Medo Hassan who has the same address as the corporation.
- {5} Medo Hassan is the President of Elsenbary. He is a resident of the State of North Carolina, and he resides at the address listed above.
- {6} Elsenbary engages in interstate motor vehicle transportation, including in and through the State of Texas. It operates two or more trucks with one or more single-vehicle or multi-vehicle carrier trailers designed to transport motor vehicles. It is licensed by United States Department of Transportation as an interstate motor carrier.
- {7} According to documents filed with the US DOT, Elsenbary has two drivers, and upon information and belief, Hassan and Ragab are the sole owner-operators, and are also drivers employed by Elsenbary. Upon information and belief, Hassan and one other individual were the drivers of the truck which delivered the Vehicle in damaged condition.

- {8} Taghrid Transportation, Inc.(hereinafter, "Taghrid"), is a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the state of North Carolina, with its principal address at 1606 Bay Meadows Ave. N.W.. Concord, North Carolina, and its registered agent for service of process is Medo Hassan at the same address. Upon information and belief, Taghrid Transportation is an alternate name used by Elsenbary.
- {9} Markel Insurance Company, ("Markel"), is a corporation organized and existing under the laws of Illinois, with its principal place of business located at 4521 Highwood Parkway, Glen Allen, Virginia, 23060. Markel is a wholly owned subsidiary of Markel Corporation, and its registered agent for the service of process is CT Corporation System, 4701 Cox Rd., #285, Glen Allen, Virginia, 23060.

## **GENERAL FACTS**

- {10} Elsenbary is a contract carrier specializing in the transport of motor vehicles in intrastate and interstate commerce.
- {11} Taghrid Ragab and Medo Hassan are the owners and operators of both Elsenbary and Taghrid.
- {12} Markel Insurance is in the business of providing various types of liability, property and casualty insurance, including cargo coverage to businesses engaged in commercial interstate trucking. According to documents maintained by the Federal Motor Carrier Safety

  Administration, at all times relevant to this complaint Markel provided cargo insurance coverage to Elsenbary under policy number IMTR0512.

- {13} On or about October 19, 2021, Plaintiff offered to contract with Defendants

  Elsenbary, Taghrid, Ragab, and Hassan to transport a motor vehicle, to wit, a 1965 Alfa Romeo

  GT, (the "Vehicle"), from a location in Cologne, Minnesota to a location in Forney, Texas.
- {14} This offer was made through a company named Central Dispatch, and was accepted by Elsenbary, Hassan, Ragab and Taghrid.
- {15} On or about October 20, 2021 Elsenbary, Hassan and Ragab picked up the Vehicle in Minnesota in good condition and with no exceptions.
- {16} When the Vehicle was delivered by the Defendants to the Plaintiff in Forney,
  Texas, the Vehicle had suffered severe damage resulting in the rear portion of the Vehicle being crushed.
- {17} The damage to the vehicle was the fault of the Defendants, and was not an act of God, or the public enemy, or an act of war, or an act or default of the shipper, or the public authority, nor was it due to the inherent vice or nature of the goods transported.
- {18} At the time of delivery there were two drivers who unloaded the Vehicle and immediately removed themselves from the scene. In particular, they unloaded the damaged Vehicle and quickly drove away from the scene at the delivery location.
- {19} Plaintiff immediately notified the Defendants of his claim against them and demanded payment.
- {20} None of the Defendants have paid anything to compensate Plaintiff for damage to the vehicle.

#### COUNT I

### STRICT LIABILITY UNDER 49 USC 14706,

#### (THE CARMACK AMENDMENT)

- {21} The allegations of paragraphs 1 through 20 are hereby repeated and realleged as if set forth fully herein.
- {22} Pursuant to 49 USC Section 14706, a motor carrier is strictly liable for damage to cargo while entrusted to it in interstate commerce.
- {23} Therefore, Elsenbary, Ragab and Hassan and Taghrid are strictly liable to the Plaintiff for the damage alleged above.

### **COUNT II**

#### **BREACH OF CONTRACT**

- {24} The allegations of paragraphs 1 through 23 are hereby repeated and realleged as if set forth fully herein.
- {25} The Defendants were obligated by their agreement with the Plaintiff to carefully and safely transport the Vehicle from Montana to Forney, Texas.
- {26} The Defendants agreed to perform all work in a good and workmanlike manner and to the full satisfaction of the Plaintiff.
- {27} The Defendants agreed to take all reasonable precautions for the safety of the Vehicle under their custody, care and service.
- {38} The Defendants also agreed that the work would be performed in accordance with generally accepted professional standards, and with due diligence.

- {29} The Defendants breached this agreement in that they did not perform the work according to the agreement, did not take reasonable precautions for the safety of the Vehicle, and did not perform the contract in accordance with generally professional standards.
- {30} As a result of the Defendants' breach, the Vehicle was delivered in damaged condition, causing the Plaintiff to suffer monetary damages.

### **COUNT III**

#### **NEGLIGENCE**

- {31} The allegations of paragraphs 1 through 30 are hereby repeated and realleged as if set forth fully herein.
- {32} The Defendants owed Plaintiff a duty to use ordinary and reasonable care in the loading, transporting and unloading of the Vehicle.
- {33} The Defendants failed to use ordinary and reasonable care in the loading, transporting and unloading of the Vehicle in that they:
  - a. Loaded the vehicle in a careless and improper manner,
  - b. Failed to secure the Vehicle and its doors,
  - c. Caused the Vehicle to collide with the trailer,
  - d. Caused the Vehicle to collide with other objects,
  - e. Failed to secure the Vehicle with coverings appropriate to the conditions,
  - f. Exposed the Vehicle to damage from weather, including hail, wind, and windstorm,
  - g. Damaged the Vehicle while it was in their possession,

- h. And negligently damaged the Vehicle in ways that may be discovered during the proceedings of this action.
- {34} The Defendants' negligence directly and proximately caused damage to the Vehicle, and thereby to the Plaintiff.
- {35} Plaintiff is a third party beneficiary under the contract of insurance that the insurance Defendant was required by the US Department of transportation to maintain on behalf of shippers, including the Plaintiff, to cover damage to cargo caused by the Defendants.

  Consequently, Defendant Markel is liable to the Plaintiff for the damages described herein.

### **DEMAND FOR TRIAL BY JURY**

{36} The Plaintiff hereby demands a trial by jury on all issues so triable.

### WHEREFORE, the Plaintiff prays the Court as follows:

- 1. That the Plaintiff have and recover the actual damages suffered by Plaintiff in the amount of \$17,500.00,
- 2. That the Plaintiff have and recover of the Defendant, the costs of this action, including reasonable administrative fees.

3. For such other and further relief as the Court deems to be just and proper.

Respectfully submitted,

April 27, 2022

Geoffrey Wattiker, Pro se

5208 Longview St.

Dallas, TX 75206

469 769 0063

Porscherescue@Gmail.com

### **Certification**

Under Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 11, by signing below, I certify to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief that this complaint (1) is not being presented for an improper purpose, such as to harass, cause unnecessary delay, or needlessly increase the cost of litigation, (2) is supported by existing law or by a non-frivolous argument for extending, modifying or reversing existing law, (3) the factual contentions have evidentiary support or, if specifically so identified, will likely have evidentiary support after a reasonable opportunity for further investigation or discovery, and (4) the complaint otherwise complies with the requirements of Rule 11 of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure.

Geoffrey Wattiker April 27, 2022 JS 44 (Rev. 04/21)

# **CIVIL COVER SHEET**

The JS 44 civil cover sheet and the information contained herein neither replace nor supplement the filing and service of pleadings or other papers as required by law, except as provided by local rules of court. This form, approved by the Judicial Conference of the United States in September 1974, is required for the use of the Clerk of Court for the purpose of initiating the civil docket sheet. (SEE INSTRUCTIONS ON NEXT PAGE OF THIS FORM.)

I. (a) PLAINTIFFS	<u></u>			DEFENDANTS			······································	
Geoffrey Wattiker				Elsenbary Enterprises, Inc., Medo Hassan, Taghrid Ragar, Markel Insurance Company, Taghrid Transportetion. Inc.				
(b) County of Residence of First Listed Plaintiff Dallas, TX				County of Residence of First Lined Defendant Ochharres INC				
(E.	XCEPT IN U.S. PLAINTIFF CA	ISES)		NOTE: IN LAND CO	(IN U.S.)	PLAINTIFF CASES O	WLI)	
				THE TRACT	OF LAND	ION CASES, USE TI NVOLVED. ADD	2 7 2022	
(c) Attorneys (Firm Name, Address, and Telephone Number)				Attorneys (If Known) APR 2 7 2022			2 , WKZ	
Pro Se				Unknown	<u> </u>	NO	4	
					į		DISTRICT COUR	
II. BASIS OF JURISD	ICTION (Place an "X" in	One Box Only)		FIZENSHIP OF PR (For Diversity Cases Only)	RINCIPA		Place on "X" in One B and One Box for Defend	
U.S. Government Plaintiff	xt x 3 Federal Question (U.S. Government Not a Party)		Citize	en of This State		Incorporated or Pri		P DEF
2 U.S. Government Defendant	4 Diversity (Indicate Citizensh	ip of Parties in Item III)	Citize	en of Another State	2 🔲 2	Incorporated and P		5 🗆 5
				n or Subject of a	3 🗌 3	Foreign Nation		6 [6
IV. NATURE OF SUIT	Γ (Place an "X" in One Box Or					for: Nature of S	uit Code Descrin	tions.
110 Insurance	PERSONAL INJURY	PERSONAL INJUR		5 Drug Related Seizure	422 AT	peal 28 USC 158	375 False Claims	Acr
120 Marine	310 Airplane	365 Personal Injury -		of Property 21 USC 881	423 W	ithdrawal	376 Qui Tam (31	
130 Miller Act 140 Negotiable Instrument	315 Airplane Product Liability	Product Liability 367 Health Care/	⊢∾	0 Other	28	USC 157	3729(a)) 400 State Reappo	ortionment
150 Recovery of Overpayment & Enforcement of Judgment	320 Assault, Libel & Slander	Pharmaceutical Personal Injury	1				410 Antitrust 430 Banks and B	enkina
151 Medicare Act	330 Federal Employers'	Product Liability	.		830 Pa		450 Commerce	many.
152 Recovery of Defaulted Student Loans	Liability 340 Marine	injury Product	'			tent - Abbreviated rw Drug Application	460 Deportation 470 Racketeer In	
(Excludes Veterans)  153 Recovery of Overpayment	345 Marine Product Liability	Liability PERSONAL PROPER	TY		■ 840 Tn	sdemark fend Trade Secrets	Consupt Orga 480 Consumer C	
of Veteran's Benefits  160 Stockholders' Suits	350 Motor Vehicle	370 Other Fraud		0 Fair Labor Standards Act		t of 2016	(15 USC 16	81 or 1692)
190 Other Contract	355 Motor Vehicle Product Liability	371 Truth in Lending 380 Other Personal	<u></u> □72	0 Labor/Management			485 Telaphone C Protection A	
195 Contract Product Liability 196 Franchise	360 Other Personal Injury	Property Damage 385 Property Damage	74	Relations O Railway Labor Act		A (1395ff) ack Lung (923)	490 Cable/Sat T 850 Securities/Ca	
<b>_</b>	362 Personal Injury - Medical Malpractice	Product Liability		1 Family and Medical Leave Act	863 DI	WC/DIWW (405(g)) ID Title XVI	Exchange	
88888 J. 19888	1994 - 1995 1994 - 1995			0 Other Labor Litigation		II (405(g))	× 890 Other Status 891 Agricultural	Acts
210 Land Condemnation 220 Foreclosure	440 Other Civil Rights 441 Voting	Habeas Corpus:  463 Alien Detainee	79	I Employee Retirement Income Security Act			893 Environmen 895 Freedom of	
230 Rent Lease & Ejectment	442 Employment	510 Motions to Vacate	:	,		zes (U.S. Plaintiff	Act	
240 Torts to Land 245 Tort Product Liability	443 Housing/ Accommodations	Sentence 530 General	.			Defendant) S—Third Party	896 Arbitration 899 Administrati	ve Procedure
290 All Other Real Property	445 Amer. w/Disabilities - Employment	535 Death Penalty Other:	146	2 Naturalization Application	ì	6 USC 7609	Act/Review Agency Deci	
	446 Amer. w/Disabilities -	540 Mandamus & Oth		5 Other Immigration			950 Constitution	ality of
	Other 448 Education	550 Civil Rights 555 Prison Condition	- 1	Actions	l		State Statute	1
	]	560 Civil Detainee - Conditions of						
V. ORIGIN (Place an "X" i	1	Confinement			L			
•		Remanded from	74 Reins	stated or 5 Transfer	rred from	┌ 6 Multidistri	ict ┌┐8 Miul	tidistrict
Proceeding Sta		Appellate Court	Reop	ened Another (specify)	District	Litigation Transfer		gation ~ ect File
	Cite the U.S. Civil Sta	tute under which you a	re filing (L	Oo not cits jurisdictional stat			Diii	et i ne
VI. CAUSE OF ACTIO	ON 49 USC 14706 Carms Brief description of car			<del></del>				<del> </del>
		to cargo, to wit, 1965 Alf	a Romeo (	GT				
VII. REQUESTED IN COMPLAINT:	CHECK IF THIS UNDER RULE 2	IS A CLASS ACTION 3, F.R.Cv.P.		EMAND \$ 17,500		CHECK YES only URY DEMAND:	if demanded in com	<del>iplaint:</del> No
VIII. RELATED CASI	E(S) (See instructions):	JUDGE			DOCI	CET NUMBER		
DATE		SIGNATURE OF AT	ORNEY C	OF RECORD				
April 26,2022		200 14	خ 					
FOR OFFICE USE ONLY								
RECEIPT # Al	MOUNT	APPLYING IFP		JUDGE		MAG. JUI	XXIII.	